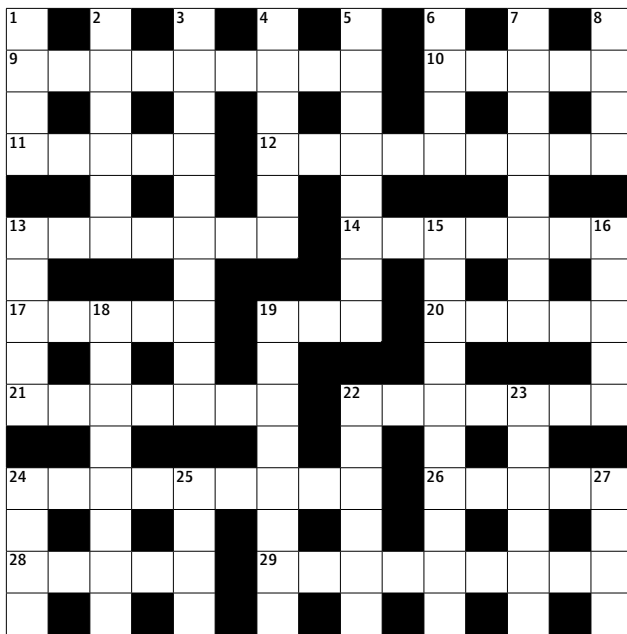


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 26,745 set by Qaos

Across

- 9** Doctor healing great ills (9)
10 Soft or hard water rejected over cost (5)
11 Handy sort of barman? (5)
12 Handling exotic matter, CERN regularly gets tritium (9)
13 Fellow abducted by flying saucer outside (7)
14 Company happy to flog 75% back to partners (7)
17 Had wicket nicked by 1d? (5)
19 Record not even 86,400 seconds (3)
20 Pen (see writer) (5)
21 Funny gag's line unleashed (7)
22 Found directions inside Scottish house (7)
24 A lot of earth doesn't form a magnet (9)
26 Who has this enemy? (5)
28 5 + 0 + 500 + 1000 + 1 has strong proof? (5)
29 President blows top, upset about new table service (6,3)

Down

- 1** Composer's single – 50% off! (4)
2 Sportsman ascending unknown mountain expresses hesitation (6)
3 Group involved in torture? (4,6)
4 Short story about dry lake (6)

- 5** Flexible chest? Try exercise (8)
6 Quarrel that's over a shoe? (4)
7 Give Ali the sack for making pottery (4,4)
8 Hit by 4 central characters of 60s' pop group (4)
13 Bully on board boats (5)
15 Building under a site is more rickety (10)
16 Explorer specifically to climb side of Everest (5)
18 Caesar's code for M or L and X in France (8)
19 Dead trees, containing orange, ochre and dun initially, like these? (8)
22 Small bird perched on English novelist (6)
23 Everything is special for this themed commentator (6)
24 Nothing fancy (4)
25 Author has enigmatic wife (4)
27 Aircraft's 5th gear? (4)

Solution No. 26,744

